

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 04225 082054Z

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ADP-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10

RSC-01 COA-02 EB-11 OIC-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

ACDA-19 AEC-11 AGR-20 CG-00 COME-00 DOTE-00 FMC-04

INT-08 JUSE-00 NSF-04 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SCI-06 CEQ-02

RSR-01 /247 W

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R 081955Z AUG 73

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1068

INFO USMISSION USUN NY

UNCLAS GENEVA 4225

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, UN

SUBJ: LOS: SEABED COMMITTEE MEETING, SUBCMTE

II, WORKING GROUP, AUGUST 7, 1973

1. SUMMARY. WG SPENT MOST OF TIME IN INCONCLUSIVE DEBATE OVER WHETHER DISCUSSION ON BREADTH OF TERRITORIAL SEA SHOULD BE BEFORE, AFTER OR CONCURRENTLY WITH DISCUSSION OF EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE.

2. CHAIRMAN ANNOUNCED THAT ART. 2.1 OF COMPARATIVE TABLE WOULD NOW BE TAKEN UP AND ART. 2.2 WOULD BE DISCUSSED AT A LATER STAGE. DISCUSSION WOULD BE POSTPONED ON ART. 1, 4, 5.1, 5.2 AND 9.2. ANY DELEGATIONS WISHING TO SUBMIT ART. ON 2.3.1 SHOULD DO SO IN WRITING. URUGUAY HAD SUBMITTED TWO CORRECTIONS TO ART. 11.2 AND THIS ARTICLE WOULD ALSO BE STUDIED THIS MORNING.

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 04225 082054Z

3. URUGUAYAN REP THEN READ NEW TEXT AND MALTA

SUGGESTED CORRECTIONS. CHAIRMAN ASKED MALTESE TO SUBMIT ALTERNATIVE TEXT IN LIEU OF AMENDING URUGUAYAN TEXT. CHINESE HAD INDICATED DESIRE TO INCLUDE THEIR TEXT ON STRAITS UNDER TERRITORIAL SEA HEADING AND US SUGGESTED THAT ITEM MIGHT BE MORE PROPERLY INCLUDED UNDER ITEM 4 ON LIST WHICH CONCERNS STRAITS. EGYPT AGREED TO US PROPOSAL BUT CHINESE SUGGESTED THAT ITEM SHOULD BE DISCUSSED UNDER BOTH LIST HEADINGS. TURKEY ALSO PREFERRED CHINESE ARTICLE UNDER ITEM 4 IF PURPOSE WAS TO COVER LEGAL REGIME OF STRAITS.

4. BULGARIAN REP SUPPORTED BY TANZANIA, SPAIN AND THE USSR, FAVORED TAKING NOTE OF CHINESE PROPOSAL BUT DISCUSSING SUBJECT UNDER ITEM 4. US SUGGESTED LEAVING TEXT INTACT BUT PLACING FOOTNOTE CONTAINING REFERENCE TO OTHER ALTERNATIVE TEXTS UNDER ITEM 4.

5. UK CRITICIZED CHINESE WORDING AND SPAIN SUGGESTED UK SUBMIT ALTERNATIVE TEXT. CHAIRMAN SUGGESTED MOVING TO CONSIDERATION OF ART. 2.3.2 ENTITLED: "BREADTH OF THE TERRITORIAL SEA. GLOBAL OR REGIONAL CRITERIA. OPEN SEAS AND OCEANS, SEMI-INCLOSED SEAS AND ENCLOSED SEAS."

6. KENYA TOOK FLOOR TO URGE THAT BREADTH OF TERRITORIAL SEA WAS INTIMATELY CONNECTED WITH ECONOMIC ZONE AND COULD NOT BE DEALT WITH SEPARATELY. HE SUGGESTED THAT TERRITORIAL SEA DISCUSSION BE POSTPONED. BULGARIAN REP ATTEMPTED TO DISCUSS 2.3.2 AND WAS INTERRUPTED WITH POINT OF ORDER BY KENYAN REP. LONG PROCEDURAL ARGUMENT ENSUED WITH SENEGAL, SUPPORTED BY IVORY COAST, SUGGESTING THAT ECONOMIC ZONE BE DISCUSSED NEXT AND NIGERIA STATING THAT TERRITORIAL SEA BREADTH COULD BE DISCUSSED NOW WITH UNDERSTANDING ABOUT LINKAGE WITH EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE. MEXICO AND COLOMBIA POINTED OUT EXERCISE WAS TO PRESENT ALTERNATIVE TEXTS. CAMEROON SUPPORTED IDEA OF ITEMS BEING DISCUSSED SIMULTANEOUSLY. GHANA FORMALLY MOVED FOR CLOSURE OF PROCEDURAL DEBATE BUT WAS REMINDED BY CHAIRMAN THAT WG OPERATED BY CONSENSUS. USSR SUPPORTED NIGERIA AND MEXICO. LEBANON

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 GENEVA 04225 082054Z

SUGGESTED TERRITORIAL SEA BREADTH BE LEFT BLANK AND GROUP MOVE ON TO NEXT ITEM. TANZANIA SUPPORTED CAMEROON.

7. US WAS CONCERNED WITH MAINTENANCE OF CONSENSUS IN VOTING AND STRESSED THAT GROUP WAS ATTEMPTING TO CALIFY ALTERNATIVES, NOT DEBATE SUBSTANCE. HE AGAIN SUGGESTED FOOTNOTE SAYING PROPOSALS COULD BE DISCUSSED LATER IN CONNECTION WITH ECONOMIC ZONE. REP POINTED

OUT THAT NO CONSOLIDATED TEXT EXISTED ON ECONOMIC ZONE.

8. PERU STATED THAT IT WAS REASONABLE FOR DELEGATIONS TO SAY FIGURE FOR BREADTH OF TERRITORIAL CONTINGENT ON RECOGNITION OF 200-MILE ECONOMIC ZONE. SENEGAL POINTED OUT THAT 41 AFRICAN HEADS OF STATE HAD DELETED 12-MILE TERRITORIAL SEA BREADTH BECAUSE SUCH A POSITION COULD NOT BE TAKEN WITHOUT KNOWING OUTCOME ON EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE. JAMAICA, BULGARIA, PERU, URUGUAY AND ECUADOR SPOKE IN FAVOR OF CONCURRENT CONSIDERATION IT ITEMS.

9. CHAIRMAN CONCLUDED MEETING BY STATING HE WOULD MAKE NO DECISION.

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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